ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A Multiservice Access Concentrator (MAC) emulates a tie-line over a wide area packet data network comprising cell-based and packet-based networks comprising Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM), Frame Relay, High-level Data Link Control (HDLC), Internet Protocol (IP), and Time Division Multiplex (TDM) networks, as well as leased-line carrier services. The emulation comprises passing a ringing state of a telephone interface to a remote voice over packet-data-network system (VOPS) switched call control system (SCCS) while maintaining the telephone interface in an on-hook state. The emulation is accomplished by generating a ring signal at the telephone interface in response to the telephone call, and passing the ring signal to a first VOPS SCCS. An offhook signal is asserted at the first VOPS SCCS in response to the ring signal. Furthermore, a private line automatic ringdown is established to the remote VOPS SCCS. Transmission of the offhook signal to the telephone interface is then blocked, wherein the telephone interface remains in an onhook state while the first VOPS SCCS sees the telephone interface in an offhook state. The ring signal to the first VOPS SCCS is blocked in response to receipt of the offhook signal, and an artificial loop current signal is transmitted to the first VOPS SCCS, wherein the first VOPS SCCS sees the telephone interface in an offhook state.